SKY BLUE BEACH

Chapter 6

WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THE SMELL OF CIGA-RETTES
14.
THUMP
THE
TOMO-CHAN
MY HEART IS BEATING SO HARD
RI-
AD

I HOPE YOU WILL FORGET
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY SISTER
MY HEART,
...
RIKU-NII
IT HURTS
TEN HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO OVER-COME IT YET,
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD ANYONE ABOUT IT
thump

...
IT HURTS...
ABOUT TANAKA,
I SOMEWHAT UNDERSTAND
AH,
-SORRY, IS IT THE SHOULDERS?
NO...
"UH, I ASKED SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED" IS WHAT I THOUGHT.
SO, I WON'T ASK AGAIN
THANK YOU

MM
TOMO, YOU'RE AMAZING.
YOU'VE ONLY KNOWN HIM SINCE YOUR FIRST YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL,
SO YOU MAY NOT UNDERSTAND.
ALTHOUGH TEN IS LIKE THAT, HE HAS ALREADY IMPROVED A LOT.
I HOPE YOU GET ALONG WITH TEN.
I THINK MEETING YOU HAS BEEN A BLESSING.

HAHAHA
WELL,
I'M HIS APPRENTICE AFTER ALL!
UH, YOUR COAT GOT DIRTY AGAIN
MM.
IT'S ALRIGHT.
NO WAY
IT NEEDS TO BE WASHED AGAIN.
GIVE IT TO ME!
AH!
SEE YOU LATER-
TOMOCHAN.
SHE EVEN HURT YOU AND SO IT'S NOT NICE OF ME TO ASK YOU FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS
BUT MICHIRU'S ATTENDANCE ISN'T DOING TOO WELL

CAN YOU...
TELL HER TO COME TO SCHOOL?
SHE HAS NO FRIEND
UH, I BUT,
IF I TELL HER, IT MIGHT HAVE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT...
ON THE OTHER HAND IF I TRY TALKING TO HER
BUT
AH
DIFFERENTLY, PERHAPS IT WOULD WORK...
REALLY !?
IF YOU ASK, I WON'T BLAME YOU!!
THANK YOU.
I'M SORRY THAT BOTH TEN AND MICHIRU
WORRY YOU NOW
IT'S OK
RIKU-NII,
I,
BYE!

I
AM WORRIED ABOUT YOU TOO.

TANAKA
HE WILL CATCH A COLD IF HE SLEEPS HERE
WAH,
AH!
FOUND HIM!
Pops up
Zz
JUST LIKE A KID
SOMETHING IS STUCK THERE.
AH
Is that cat hair
WAH-
HE'S SOUND ASLEEP
SHOCK

EVEN IF RIKU-NII NEVER ASKED ME,
TO BECOME INVOLVED,
IT'S INEVITABLE.
RIKU-NIICHAN!

SORRY
TENTO,
SORRY
.....

...
...
slip
get up

...
WILL DO ALL THAT I CAN
I'M BA-
CK
PU.
PU!!
I
ALSO, DINNER'S READY!!
BENKEI WON'T POOP, YOU GO WALK HIM!!

EH, THIS IS MY. .
WHILE I WAS SLEEPING, YOU COVERED ME WITH IT, RIGHT?
STOP WITH THIS INDIRECT WAY OF SHOWING LOVE, IT MAKES ME SICK!
ALSO, I'M SORRY ABOUT TODAY!!
REALLY.
Are we going
HA
HA
BAM!!!

DING DONG
DING DONG
佐伯
SAEKI
.....
NO ONE WHO LIVES HERE GOES BY THAT NAME
IS MICHIRU-CHAN THERE?
WOOF!
TOMO-CHAN IS AWESOME,
ISN'T SHE?

EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY IS CALLED SAEKI!!
I CAN TELL WHO YOU ARE FROM YOUR VOICE, SAEKI!!
YOU'RE OBVI-OUSLY AT HOME!!!
THOUGHT I'D SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!?
...YOU
AH..!
WAAH!
SORRY, SEEMS LIKE I'VE GOT THE WRONG HOUSE
COME TO SCHOOL!!
YOUR ATTENDANCE ISN'T TOO GREAT, IS IT?
IF YOU'VE GOT THE ENERGY TO SCREAM, WHY DON'T YOU GO TO CLASS?
IT WAS PROB-ABLY RIKU WHO ASKED YOU ANYWAY. YOU ONLY WANT TO SCORE POINTS WITH HIM BY DOING THIS.
SHUT UP, IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS! SO MED-DLESOME!!

FROZ
EN!!
SO ANNOYING!!
IF YOU DON'T COME TO SCHOOL,
RIKU-NII,
WILL BE MINE!!

SILENCE
TAP TAP
CLICK
TAP
SHAMELESS WOMEN LIKE YOU,
IS WHAT I HATE THE MOST!!
THINGS I CAN DO...

Staff room
YES.
I HOPE YOU CAN COME TO SCHOOL EVEN DURING THE BREAK
ALTHOUGH IT IS ALREADY WINTER VACATION, I WILL TRY TO WRITE YOU IN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN COME
BECAUSE YOUR GRADE DEFINITELY ISN'T A PROBLEM...
YES.
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR THEM CAREFULLY
No way
You really came out!!
So funny
What a nerve!!
What are you laughing at?
That I don't have enough attendance the whole neighborhood probably heard that

Smile
WHEN I THINK THAT SHE WOULD COME TO SCHOOL EVERY-DAY...
I wonder if she's going to come to the end of the classes in the half-days
INDEED, THE "PERSUASIVE SAKURAI."
DON'T SAY THAT.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
TOMO IS AN EXPERT AT THIS, EVER SINCE SHE WAS LITTLE.
TEACHERS WOULD OFTEN ASK FOR HER HELP IN ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL.
AN!
IF THERE WERE STUDENTS WHO DIDN'T FIT IN, SHE COULD HELP THEM ADJUST QUICKLY
THEN, SHE WOULD GUIDE THOSE KIDS TO JOIN GROUPS THAT THEY'RE MOST COMFORTABLE IN.
I'M REALLY PROUD OF HER.

Pat
Pat
HEH
GET OUT OF MY WAY.
MICHI RU,
I'M NOT GOING BACK HOME DURING WINTER VACATION.
Pissed off
SO YOU CAN COME TO SCHOOL WITHOUT WORRY...
turn
THE "PERSUASIVE SAKURAI."
NO ONE LOOKS AFTER MY YOUNGER BROTHER, FROM YOUR TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE, WHAT GROUP WILL HE JOIN?
This feels really sad-
<Hahaha
Ahaha

HM...
TANAKA'S TEMPER IS HARD TO TELL,
SO, I WILL TEMPORARILY BE HIS BUDDY!
SAEKI-SAAAAN!
Oh, right
HEY, IN WINTER BREAK
AH, SAEKI-SAN
YES.
IT'S YOUR TURN TO WORK TODAY.
IT'S ACTUALLY MINE TOO, BUT TODAY I NEED TO WRITE THE JOURNAL...
Am I being ignored?
It's ok. I'm going to wait :/=
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE TEACHER, he's in the office
AH, THANK YOU.
THEN I'LL GET GOING.
Wonder if she's finished

AH,
SO,
WINTER BREAK-
EH?
HM, WHY... WE'RE CLASSMATES
ALL THE OTHER STUDENTS USE POLITE EXPRESSIONS WHEN TALKING TO ME,
BECAUSE I'M OLDER.
AH, BUT.
WHY DO YOU TALK SO IMPOLITELY?
USE IT.
:
UM, SAEKI-SAN DURING THE WINTER BREAK YOU'LL PROBABLY COME TO SCHOOL EVERYDAY, RIGHT?
.....
JUST USE WHATEVER YOU USUALLY DO.
HMPH
WHAT IN THE WORLD!?

AH, THAT'S FINE TOO
I ALSO PLAN TO COME TO SCHOOL DURING WINTER BREAK
IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE FAILING, AND NEED EXTRA CLASSES?
NOT AT ALL.
I COME TO THE SEASHORE IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL EVERYDAY TO PICK UP THINGS.
WON'T YOU COME TOO?
...HA?
UM, THIS...
YOU REALLY WANTED THIS STONE, RIGHT?
IT CAN BE FOUND ON THAT BEACH.
YOUR WATCH IS GONE.
YEAH, THIS IS ALSO THAT FRIEND-
AH!

SPEAKING OF WHICH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WHAT...?! WH-
I'D FORGOTTEN TO THANK YOU FOR PICKING THIS UP!!
THANK YOU
I'LL ASK MY FRIEND! ABOUT YOU JOINING,
OH
FRIEND?

Ah
.....
ONLY DURING WINTER VACATION, IS THAT OKAY?
HH-HUH.
REALLY IS SHY IN FRONT OF STRANGERS, HUH-
AS EXPECTED, TANAKA.
THEN,
LET'S BET.
EH?
WHOEVER CAN FIND TREASURE FIRST, WINS.
THAT'S INTERESTING!! DEAL!!

IT'S A COMPLETE BODY OF A SEA URCHIN
IT'S NOT A RARITY, BUT THIS ONE IS REALLY PRETTY...
Plus right now it's the season for sea urchins
hm
AH...
(EMPTY) SHELL) SEA URCHIN
When it's it comes to finding thing I'm better than you!
Don't underestimate your mentor
I'M NOT
YOU'RE TAKING THIS ONE?
SMILE
SMILE
TURN
HOHO...

THAT'S A SEA URCHIN!
I WILL DEFINITELY WIN AGAINST YOU!
SUCH A COMMON THING, IS THAT ACCEPT-ABLE!?
IT'S NOT ABOUT THAT!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO FOUND IT. I ONLY PICKED IT UP. SO IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH WINNING OR LOSING
So sly.
Not sly at all
AH...!
THEN I'LL TAKE IT.
TENTO
TOMO
YOUR FRIEND, IS SHE A GIRL?
THAT'S RIGHT, BUT...
When I get home I should look it up
Is it a mouse's bone?
IF WE CAN FIND IT EVERYDAY IT WOULDN'T BE A TREASURE ANYMORE, RIGHT?
There are days like this
THE WEATHER ISN'T TOO GREAT.
YEAH
SO IT'S A TIE?
—IS A FLAWED EIGHTH GENERATION SHELL AND AN ODD PIECE OF BONE?

EH?
UH-HUH
AH
UM-
AH!
RIGHT, RIGHT! SHE'S A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG GIRL WITH LONG HAIR!!
WHAT'S HER NAME...?
WITH LONG HAIR
Already forgotten
AHA,
IF IT'S HER, NO PROB-LEM
AWE-SOME!!
THANK YOU, TANAKA!!
But in exchange you need to return that I see uroki-n to me.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GET HURT, BRING WORKING GLOVES WITH YOU.
Hm?
NOT WALLET ...?
—UH, WAS THAT A THREAT ...?
working gloves?
WEIRD GUY..
Year 1 Class 1
DONG-
DING-
DANG-
SAEKI-SAN-!!
WH...
WHAT?
HEY, HOW ABOUT WE START TODAY, OK?
TODAY!?
ABOUT GOING TO THE SEA-SHORE TO COLLECT THINGS, MY FRIEND AGREED!!

!!
I BROUGHT MY FRIEND-!!
AH, TANAKA !!
SHE'S MY CLASS-MATE SAEKI-SAN!
SAEKI-SAN, THIS IS TANAKA FROM CLASS 2
...
HIGH PRESSURED AND COLD GIRL...
HARSH AND COLD BOY...
TERRIBLE FIRST IM-PRESSIONS OF EACH OTHER
THEN, SAEKI-SAN AND I WILL GO LOOK FOR AGATES
OVER THERE!
Ah what a odd at-mos-phere!?

IN THIS ENTIRE AREA
WHERE CAN WE FIND THEM?
EH.
IN THE SAND!?
MM.
PERSE-VERANCE!
SHOCKED
MICHIRU-SAN
SER
IOUS
SIT
SNIFF

AH
WHAT "LAST TIME?"
..AT THE CULTURE FESTIVAL, I HIT YOU
ONLY A LITTLE SLAP
HMPH
THAT WAS
WHY DO YOU SAY IT AS IF YOU'RE USED TO BEING HIT?
I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT LAST TIME..
WHAT,
DON'T ACT SO FAMILIARLY WITH ME..
EH?
IT'S GLASS
BUT, IT SHINES BEAUTIFULLY
BECAUSE IT'S STILL WET
I can't see myself shine anymore
HM,
HAHA What a regret
THIS IS BEACH GLASS
OH,
FOUND IT?
..FOUND IT?!
THIS!?

AH,
I'LL GIVE THE AGATE I FOUND TO YOU
ALTHOUGH VERY SMALL, IT CAN BE A SAMPLE
WE CAN TAKE THIS.
BUT, MANY THINGS CAN BE MADE FROM BEACH GLASS.
doooh
...
IT'S "MICHIRU" FROM "RISING TIDE"
HEY,
HOW DO YOU WRITE "MICHIRU"?
The glass
THROW
AH

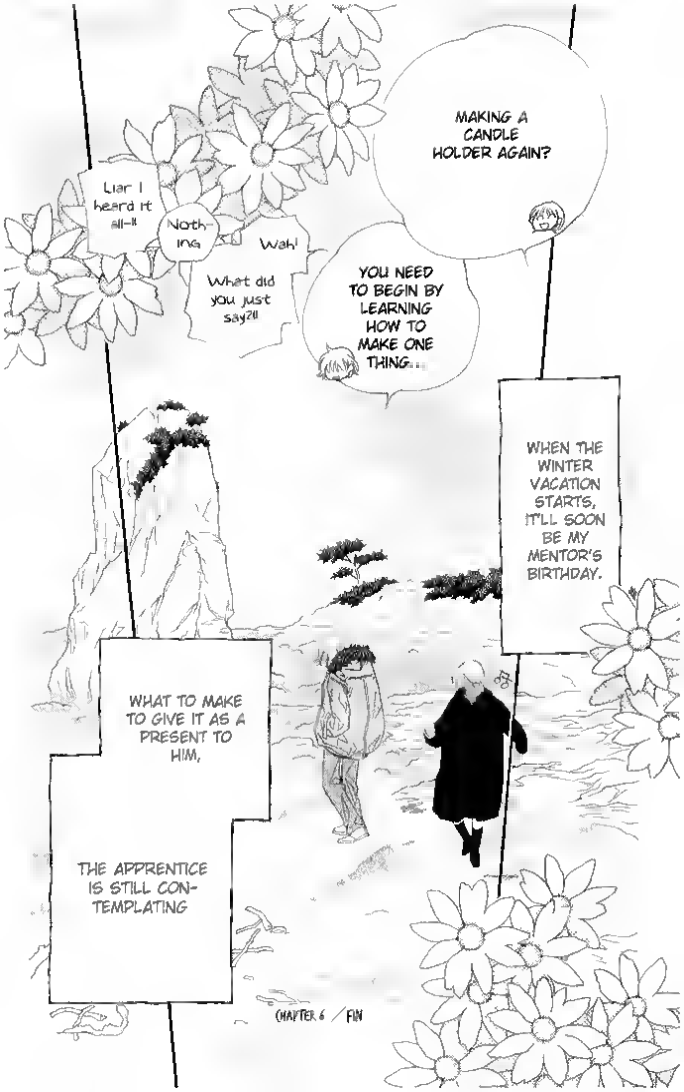
.....
AND "COVERING THE EARTH"...
SL
AP
THEN, I'M CALLED
IT'S FOR BRINGING THE RISING SUN TO THE EARTH-
"TOMO," WRITTEN WITH THE CHARAC-TER OF "MORNING"
POST

GYAAH
WASN'T IT YOU WHO HIT ME THE LAST TIME!?
WOULD YOU PLEASE CHANGE YOUR HABIT OF HITTING PEOPLE!?
GYAAH
.....
YOU HIT RIKU-NII, RIGHT?
WHEN YOU WERE AT THE SHOE SHELVES,
.....!!
WHETHER IT'S IN THE GROCERY STORE, OR DURING THE FIREWORKS,
YOU DEVIL OF A STALKER!!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? SUDDENLY APPEARING, THINKING THAT YOU'VE MADE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON HIM.
I DIDN'T DO IT INTENTIONALLY
they are
do
PERSON WHO CAME TO CHECK THE SITUATION, BUT COULD NOT REVEAL HIMSELF

I AM
RIKU'S IMPORTANT
TOLD YOU TO PICK YOUR OPPONENTS CAREFULLY
flinch
.....
thump

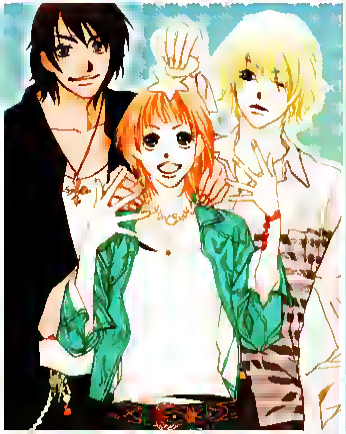
"ARE YOU FINE WITH THAT?"

?
WHAT?
NOTHING.
EH?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WITH THAT"?!
"WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE WITH THAT?"
HM-


MAKING A CANDLE HOLDER AGAIN?
YOU NEED TO BEGIN BY LEARNING HOW TO MAKE ONE THING...
Liar I heard it all-!!
Noth-ing
Wah!
What did you just say?!!
WHEN THE WINTER VACATION STARTS, IT'LL SOON BE MY MENTOR'S BIRTHDAY.
WHAT TO MAKE TO GIVE IT AS A PRESENT TO HIM,
THE APPRENTICE IS STILL CON-TEMPLATING
CHAPTER 6 / FIN

MAJOR CHARACTER Q&A
Q. WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
TANAKA RIKU!
Q. YOUR BIRTHDAY IS?
OCTOBER 10TH~♪
Q YOUR BLOOD TYPE?
UM, O! PROBABLY!
Q FAVORITE FOOD?
UDON! ♪
TROUBLE, WORRY OR ANY?
EH, DID TOMO ANSWER THAT SHE LIKES UDON TOO!? OH, WHAT A COINCIDENCE!!

SEEMS LIKE HE DOESN'T



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Happy Birthday Ja
Happy Birthday Ja!!!
I was looking
Happy Birthday!
Have fun! - tulyrnaa
Happy Birthday
- Orpheus
HaPpY BiRthDaY Rud!!
Hope ur BD will be filled
Happy Birthday
aRLegoDes!!
Love, Lovers Dream
Happy Birthday!!!
I'm glad you are
a part of this world!
It has been fun!!
I hope you have
super birthday!!!
- jupiterpower143

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